

Congressman Pence penned an op-ed on health care which ran this weekend in *Investor's Business Daily*

. In case you missed it, the op-ed is available online

[HERE](#)

and an excerpt is pasted below:

*Providing \$90 billion in new federal Medicaid spending without reforming the program, as the recent "stimulus" bill did, will not ensure better coordination of beneficiary care, will not create an administrative bureaucracy more responsive to patients and providers, and will not crack down on fraudulent spending that squeezes state and federal budgets alike.*

*A better way exists, and that is fundamental reform. One building block of reform would focus on a major inequity in the tax code. That code says individuals whose employers can't afford to provide coverage - like Deamonte Driver's mother - must use after-tax dollars to purchase health insurance.*

*That means that many hardworking people least able to afford insurance premiums must pay 30% to 50% more for coverage. Fixing this inequity in our tax code would let more individuals purchase their own policies.*

*When combined with insurance reforms that provide access to chronically ill people, and reforms that let state Medicaid dollars supplement private insurance premiums, many more people will have quality insurance coverage.*

*Unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues have blocked states' efforts to test innovative ideas that would provide the improvements Medicaid needs - reforms designed to ensure coverage people can use, not just an empty promise of care.*

*Republicans see a better way.*

*Our party recently formed a task force to craft a proposal that would ensure true reform of our health care system, including proposals to improve the health or lives of those many Americans*

*who need it most.*

*Our Democrat friends may be well-intentioned. But their plans would expand a failed government culture that has neglected the poor Americans it is supposed to serve. Throwing more taxpayer money at a structurally flawed program is not an audacious hope. It is a false one.*